

REMARKS

Claims 16-51 are pending in this application. Applicants have hereby elected Group I (claims 16-46); examination is respectfully requested.

Group Election

1. Although the Group election is made without traverse (even though Applicants do not agree that the restriction of all the groups made is appropriate), the election of species is made with traverse.

Species Elections

As stated in the MPEP § 806.04(d): In general, a generic claim should require no material element additional to those required by the species claims, and each of the species claims must require all the limitations of the generic claim.

2. The Examiner requires a species election in numbered paragraph 2 of the Office action that requires election between explosives (claim 20), narcotics (claim 23), and biological tissue (claim 24) and states that there is no generic claim. This is incorrect, as claim 16 is a generic claim to all of these species. All of these claims are dependent upon claim 16 and thus, claim 16 requires no material element additional to those required by the species claims, and each of the species claims require all of the limitations of the generic claim 16. There are no other claims with the species cited by the Examiner in numbered paragraph 2 of the Office action. Accordingly, if claim 16 is allowed, all listed species in numbered paragraph 2 of the Office action, should be examined and allowed.

3. The Examiner requires a species election in numbered paragraph 3 of the Office action that requires election between a land mine (claim 21) and an unexploded ordinance (claim 22) and states that there is no generic claim. This is incorrect, as claim 16 is a generic claim to both of these species. Both of these claims are dependent upon claim 16 and thus, claim 16 requires no material element additional to those required by the species claims, and each of the species claims require all of the limitations of the generic claim 16. There are no other claims with the species cited by the Examiner in numbered paragraph 3 of the Office action. Accordingly, if

claim 16 is allowed, all listed species in numbered paragraph 3 of the Office action, should be examined and allowed.

4. The Examiner requires a species election in numbered paragraph 4 of the Office action that requires election between resolving with a collimating material (claim 34) and a coded-array aperture (claim 35) and states that there is no generic claim. This is incorrect, as claim 33 is a generic claim to both of these species and all three species claims are dependent upon claim 29. Claim 33 requires no material element additional to those required by the species claims, and each of the species claims requires all of the limitations of the generic claim 33. There are no other claims with the species cited by the Examiner in numbered paragraph 4 of the Office action. Accordingly, if claim 33 is allowed, all referred to species in numbered paragraph 4 of the Office action, should be examined and allowed.

5. The Examiner requires a species election in numbered paragraph 5 of the Office action that requires election of a single neutron source recited in claim 36. The examiner does not state that there is no generic claim, and thus, it appears that the examiner recognizes that claim 29 is clearly a generic claim for each species recited in the claim 36 Markush group. Furthermore, the Examiner states that the election is required due to "the wide range of neutron sources disclosed and claimed as being suitable." Applicants note that only three species of neutron sources are claimed. Three sources hardly qualify as a wide range of sources and thus, this election requirement appears particularly inappropriate. Furthermore, since claim 36 is dependent on claim 29 and claim 29 is a generic claim to all three neutron sources recited in claim 36, claim 29 requires no material element additional to those required by the species claim, and the species claim requires all of the limitations of the generic claim 29. Accordingly, if claim 29 is allowed, all referred to species in numbered paragraph 5 of the Office action, should be examined and allowed.

6. The Examiner requires a species election in numbered paragraph 6 of the Office action that requires election of a single neutron sensor material recited in claim 39. Again, the examiner does not state that there is no generic claim, and thus, it appears that the examiner recognizes that claim 29 is clearly a generic claim for each species recited in the claim 39 Markush group. Furthermore, the Examiner states that the election is required due to "the wide range of neutron sensor materials disclosed and claimed as being suitable." Applicants note that only three species of neutron sensor materials are claimed. Three sensor materials hardly qualify

as a wide range and thus, this election requirement also appears to be particularly inappropriate. Furthermore, since claim 39 is dependent on claim 29 and claim 29 is a generic claim to all three neutron sensor materials recited in claim 39, claim 29 requires no material element additional to those required by the species claim, and the species claim requires all of the limitations of the generic claim 29. There are no other claims with the species cited by the Examiner in numbered paragraph 6 of the Office action. Accordingly, if claim 29 is allowed, all referred to species in numbered paragraph 6 of the Office action, should be examined and allowed.

7. The Examiner requires a species election in numbered paragraph 7 of the Office action that requires election of a single neutron sensor recited in claim 40. Again, the examiner does not state that there is no generic claim, and thus, it appears that the examiner recognizes that claim 29 is clearly a generic claim for each species recited in the claim 40 Markush group. Since claim 40 is dependent on claim 29 and claim 29 is a generic claim to all neutron sensors recited in claim 40, claim 29 requires no material element additional to those required by the species claim, and the species recited require all of the limitations of the generic claim 29. There are no other claims with the species cited by the Examiner in numbered paragraph 7 of the Office action. Accordingly, if claim 29 is allowed, all referred to species in numbered paragraph 7 of the Office action, should be examined and allowed.


8. The Examiner requires a species election in numbered paragraph 8 of the Office action that requires election of a single neutron shield material recited in claim 41. Again, the examiner does not state that there is no generic claim, and thus, it appears that the examiner recognizes that claim 29 is clearly a generic claim for each species recited in the claim 41 Markush group. Furthermore, the Examiner states that the election is required due to "the wide range of neutron shield materials disclosed and claimed as being suitable." Applicants note that only two species of neutron shield materials are even recited in the claims. Applicants find it baffling how two shield materials could possibly be considered "a wide range" and thus, this election requirement also appears to be particularly inappropriate. Furthermore, since claim 41 is dependent on claim 29 and claim 29 is a generic claim to both shield materials in claim 41, claim 29 requires no material element additional to those required by the species claim, and the species claim requires all of the limitations of the generic claim 29. There are no other claims with the species cited by the Examiner in numbered paragraph 8 of the Office action. Accordingly, if claim 29 is

allowed, both referred to species in numbered paragraph 8 of the Office action, should be examined and allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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